Message Text

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PAGE 01 HONG K 07293 090409Z ACTION HA-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 SS-15 VO-05 CA-01

/037 W

-----128120 090411Z/11

OR 090300Z JUN 78

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 780

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: SREF

SUBJECT: CLASSIFICATION OF REFUGEES WHO ARE FORMER EMPLOYEES

OF USG

REF: STATE 143859

- 1. CONGEN NOTES THAT CATEGORY II OF NEW REFUGEE PAROLE PROGRAM INCLUDES FORMER USG EMPLOYEES "IN SUPERVISORY POSITIONS."
- 2. IN VIEW OF MANY VARIED ASSIGNMENTS OF USG LOCAL EMPLOYEES IN INDOCHINA, AND THE DIFFICULTY OF DETERMINING WHICH EMPLOYEE WOULD BE IN DANGER FROM NEW GOVERNMENTS AND WHICH WOULD NOT, CONGEN RECOMMENDS CATEGORY BE EXPANDED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TO FORMER USG EMPLOYEES (NOT TERMINATED FOR CAUSE). MANY USG LOCAL EMPLOYEES WHO WERE LEFT BEHIND IN INDOCHINA SERVED AS AREA DEVELOPMENT SPECIALISTS, INTERPRETERS, SECRETARIES, AND OTHER TECHNICAL SPECIALISTS CONNECTED WITH US POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, MILITARY, OR INTELLIGENCE PROGRAMS. PERSONS IN SUCH POSITIONS WHO WERE CLOSELY IDENTIFIED WITH US AIMS IN INDOCHINA WERE NOT NECES-

SARILY IN SUPERVISORY POSITIONS. NEVERTHELESS, BECAUSE OF THE NATURE OF THEIR WORK, THEY CAN REASONABLY BE EXPECTED TO SUFFER AT THE HANDS OF THE NEW REGIMES.

3. CONGEN IS SPECIFICALLY AWARE OF ONE PUBLIC HEALTH WORKER, ONE AREA DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST AND ONE LOCAL SECRETARY TO A USAID OFFICER WHO WERE JAILED IMMED-IATELY AFTER THE FALL OF THE SAIGON GOVERNMENT. NONE OF THESE PEOPLE HAD SUPERVISORY RESPONSIBILITIES. ONLY ONE IS KNOWN TO BE RECENTLY RELEASED AFTER ALMOST THREE YEARS OF HARD LABOR, IN CONTRAST, A CHIEF OF MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL OR A SUPERVISOR OF GUARDS WHO WOULD QUALIFY UNDER THE PROPOSED CRITERIA, FACE RELATIVELY LITTLE DANGER BECAUSE OF THE NON-POLITICAL NATURE OF THEIR WORK. IN CAMBODIAA ANY FORMER USG EMPLOYEE IF IDENTIFIED WILL PROBABLY BE EXECUTED BY NEW GOVERNMENT. CONGEN THEREFORE STRONGLY RECOMMENDS DEPARTMENT MAKE APPROPRIATE REVISION TO EXPAND PROPOSED CATEGORY II. SHOESMITH

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